



The winner Frank Ulrich, GDR (centre), followed by Erik Kvafoss, Norway (right), and in third placing Terje Krostad, Norway (left).



President comments on championship

The world biathlon championship at Raubicht, Byelorussia, was brilliantly organized, and those involved in the preparations deserve gold medals, Sven Thofelt, Sweden, President of the International Modern Pentathlon and Biathlon Union, told a TASS correspondent.

According to him, biathlon is gaining in popularity, one indication of this was Australia's participation in the championship.

He later noted that no surprises have occurred so far and predicted that now before the beginning of almost any major international meeting the tone would be set by the GDR, the USSR, Norway and Finland; however, other countries are

gradually catching up. Though Frank Ulrich, GDR, currently dominates the sport, I believe that the Soviet Olympic champion Alexander Tikhonov is the top biathlete of all time, commented Thofelt.

Ulrich won the 20 km race with four firing trials in top form, clocking 1 hr 07 min 17 sec and picking up only penalty minutes. Altogether 72 entrants from 19 countries were taking part.

Viktor Semyonov, the top Soviet entrant, finished up in seventh place. Frank Ulrich, 24, now holds 11 titles from junior and senior world championships, as well as one gold, two silver and one bronze Olympic awards.

SOVIET YACHTSMEN A SUCCESS IN CANNES

The USSR performed well at the recent Cannes sailing regatta, winning two classes and taking several more awards.

Sergei Khoretsky, Minsk, triumphed in the Finn class, and Alexander Shipilko and Yuri Budantsev won in the Flying Dutchman class, with two other Soviet

crews in second and third places. Nikolai Kravchenko came second in the winged glider races, followed by two more Soviet entrants, and the Yevgeny Kudryavtsev crew made a similar showing in the Soling competition. Dmitry Beryozkin and Igor Kuznetsov came home third in the 470 class.

CELEBRATED PILOT COMMEMORATED

A team sponsored by the First Bearing-Making Plant in Moscow have won the Valery Chkalov memorial, a team event held for the 41st time. The event is named after Valery Chkalov, a renowned Soviet pilot, who in 1937 flew

from the Soviet Union to America via the North Pole. Moscow's Engineering Physics Institute team came second and the Central Army Club third. The entrants competed on the frozen Moskva River at Krylatkoye.

SWEDES DEFEATED

The Soviet Union won the 8th "Sovetskaya Rossiya" international bandy tournament by beating the Swedish world champions, 4-1, in the closing game, their fifth such triumph to date. The USSR dominated throughout. Sweden were placed second, and Finland third, after beating Norway, 5-0.

'REHEARSAL' COMING TO A CLOSE

The USSR men's handball side is winding up preparation for the World Championship due in the FRG on February 22-March 7. In January the Soviet team—last champions—lost to the future opponents in a range of tournaments in the FRG and Spain. Before leaving for the FRG the team will play some international matches in Iceland.

Their first World Championship game on February 23 will be against Czechoslovakia. Next day they will play Kuwait, and on February 26, the FRG. The three top teams in each group (there are altogether four groups) will play in two semi-final tournaments between February 28 and March 4. The winners will clash in the final game on March 7, while the second-placed teams will vie for the bronze awards.

FOOTBALL PAGEANT DRAWING CLOSER

In their another friendly in Spain the USSR drew, 2-2, with a side comprised of Real and Castilla players, Madrid.

The Spaniards led, 2-0, well into the second half when Blokhin and Buryak equalized in the 85th and 87th minute.

Among the 80,000-strong crowd at Madrid's Santiago Bernabé stadium was Tele Santana, head coach of Brazil, pitted against the USSR in a World Cup final group.



The national men's volleyball championship has resumed in Moscow and Voroshilovgrad after a short break, with the Moscow stage drawing the most interest, featuring the six top clubs. In the photo: the Central Army Club meeting the Bauman Higher Technical School team.

Photo by Yuri Tutors



The GDR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Sweden, France and the FRG are entering into the USSR winter swimming championship held at Moscow's Olimpiyskiy Swimming Pool which is due to conclude on February 14.

FOLLOWING THE GUERRILLA ROUTE

Over 5,000 contestants entered a cross-country skiing race, the largest such event yet seen in Czechoslovakia. The race took place in the Central Slovakia, which was the centre of an anti-fascist Slovak national uprising during World War II.

The 55 km itinerary followed the old guerrilla routes in the Low Tatras from the town of Kremnica to the region's centre Banska Bystrica.

SARAJEVO GEARING UP

The first issue of the press bulletin has been published by the 1984 Sarajevo 14th Winter Olympics Organizing Committee. This weekly bulletin will come out every Wednesday, and if the demand warrants itself, it will become a daily.

OF INTEREST

THE SHORTEST BOUT IN JAPANESE BOXING

For fifteen years, the record shortest bout in the history of Japanese boxing was held by Shogenori Aikawa, who on October 2, 1968, knocked down his opponent in 13 seconds. Not long ago this record was broken by a feather-weight boxer Toshio Oki who ended his fight in 12 seconds.

INFORMATION

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Havana forum in progress

Havana. We see our future in the consolidation of the socialist state, improvement of socialist democracy and the stabilizing of our economy, the head of the Polish delegation, Eugeniusz Mielnicki, told the 10th World Trade Union Congress here. The accomplishment of the great task of building a socialist Poland is being undertaken by the working people, he stressed. The Polish people are totally opposed to the blockade and economic sanctions aimed at aggravating the situation of our working people. We declare at this forum, Mielnicki pointed out, that Poland has always been and will remain as a firm link in the community of socialist nations. Aware of the bitter experience of the past, he said, we will safeguard our alliance with the Soviet Union to the best of our ability. We want to express our sincere gratitude for the fra-

(Continued on page 2)

Sweden advocates a nuclear-free zone

Stockholm. The Swedish Foreign Minister, O. Ullsten, has favoured measures aimed at achieving disarmament. It is vitally important to urgently resume Soviet-American talks on limiting strategic offensive arms and reducing nuclear stockpiles. Sweden advocates efforts to create a nuclear-free zone in Northern Europe, he said, and to ultimately eliminate all nuclear arms on the continent.

WASHINGTON CAUGHT OUT



Thousands of Salvadorans live under the sights of the US supervised junta troops. Photo from "Neues Deutschland"

Washington. American advisers are directly involved in terror operations performed by the blood-stained junta in El Salvador.

The Cable News Network recently screened a film shot by its reporters revealing several US advisers in a combat area in eastern El Salvador carrying M-16 automatic rifles, large-calibre pistols and hand grenades.

FACTS and EVENTS

● The Foreign Minister of Panama, Jorge Illueca, has urged his government to establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

● The FRG will not allow the USA to deploy its new chemical weapons in the country, E. Bahr, a prominent member in the Social Democratic Party of Germany, told the Norddeutscher Rundfunk radio station.

South Korea starts war games

Tokyo. The extensive US-South Korean "Team Spirit 82" war manoeuvres have just commenced in South Korea and involve 100,000 US troops and 40,000 US expeditionary corps.

Tokyo. Reuters-TASS. According to the North Korean news agency, North Korea has denounced a 10 week joint military exercise by US and South Korean troops, calling it a test war to provoke a new conflict on the divided peninsula. (Continued on page 2)

By air - from Moscow

Round the Soviet Union

● THE FIRST SECONDARY SCHOOL SPECIALIZING IN THE ARTS HAS OPENED IN YEREVAN, THE CAPITAL OF ARMENIA. Similar educational establishments are opening on the basis of art and music schools, in all the republic's cities and district centres. Today, over 150,000 children study at 143 music and art schools in the republic.

● THE FIRST HIGH-ALTITUDE LEMON ORCHARD IN

AZERBAIJAN HAS BEEN PLANTED IN THE TALYSHSKY MTS AT 1,000 M ABOVE SEA LEVEL. The lemons will be grown in trenches on wastelands or land unsuitable for growing other crops. This is the first time such a method has been employed in mountainous terrain.

● THE PRACTICALLY INACCESSIBLE AREAS OF DZHUZH-GARSKI ALA-TAU MTS IN SOUTH-EAST KAZAKHSTAN HAPPENED TO BE A RICH "GALLERY" OF STONE AGE ART. The Semirechensk archaeological expedition from the Republican Academy of Sciences discovered here some 2,000 cliff drawings.

SYRIA'S FRIENDS AND ENEMIES

Tunis. Syria will continue to develop and strengthen its relations with the Soviet Union, said its Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Abdel Halim Khaddam in an interview with the "Al-Sabah" newspaper. Khaddam, who was attending a ministerial level emergency session of the League of Arab States Council, stressed that cooperation with the Soviet Union advanced the interests of the struggle being waged by Syria and other Arab nations for their legitimate rights.

Khaddam denounced the anti-Syrian campaign, misrepresenting recent developments in Syria, which had been launched in the American press. The incident in the town of Hama, he charged, was misinterpreted by American imperialism and US intelligence services looking after the interests of Washington and Tel Aviv. This violent campaign, the Syrian deputy premier said, is the US administration's reaction to the failure of its anti-Arab manoeuvres in the UN and a result of the increasingly isolated position in which the aggressor and their overseers find themselves.



Jean-Loup Christol (left) and Patrick Baudry, the two French spacemen, continue their preparations for the joint Soviet-French space flight. (See page 5)

Awards to staff members of 'Soviet Weekly'

The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has issued a decree awarding orders and medals in four British subjects of the "Soviet Weekly". The names of the four award-winners are as follows: Alfred Harding, awarded the Order of Friendship Among Peoples; Alfonso Elliot and Iris Smith—the Order of Badge of Honour; and Alice Cox—the Medal for Labour Valour.

The Soviet Union and Great Britain, in connection with the 40th anniversary of the publication of the first issue of "Soviet Weekly", the names of the four award-winners are as follows: Alfred Harding, awarded the Order of Friendship Among Peoples; Alfonso Elliot and Iris Smith—the Order of Badge of Honour; and Alice Cox—the Medal for Labour Valour.



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"MN Information" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays and offers in brief the latest information on events in the USSR and in the world reported by TASS and foreign news agencies. Nothing short of the material carried in the editions of both "Moscow News" and "MN Information" gives you a full idea of life in the Soviet Union for the week.

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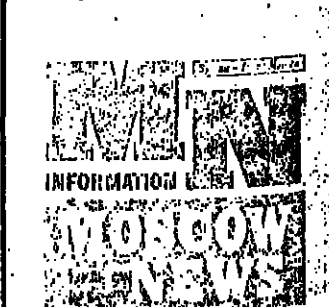
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EUROPEANS FAVOUR DIALOGUE

Brussels. Europeans are convinced of the need to continue dialogue. It is stated in a declaration put out by the Secretariat of the International Committee for European Security and Cooperation. Dialogue is particularly vital, the declaration continues, in times of crisis. The problems now under review in Madrid and the new proposals, notably on the need for a disarmament conference in Europe, are essential if a nuclear conflict on this conti-

nent is to be avoided. If the Madrid conference were to fail to achieve positive results after more than a year's work and if the delegates were to part having reached no constructive conclusions despite the fact that they have at their disposal proposals for all the "baskets" of the Helsinki Final Act on which agreement has been reached, the public would not understand, it is said in the declaration.

REALISTIC PROPOSALS BY AFGHANISTAN

New York. Afghanistan's Ambassador to the UN M. Farid Ziaee has sent a letter to the UN Secretary-General stressing that mounting armed encroachments from Pakistani territory are escalating tensions and threatening peace in the area. The military regime in Pakistan, the letter charges, is fully responsible for this state of affairs.

The letter further points out that the Afghan government proposals of May 14, 1980 and August 24, 1981 are realistic and flexible, taking full account of the interests of all sides. It is to be regretted, the letter

continues, that the Pakistani authorities refused to enter negotiations on this basis.

In our opinion, the letter stresses, the contacts between Afghanistan and Pakistan making use of facilities provided by the UN Secretary-General were useful, and we are ready to urgently continue such contacts at any place and without any preconditions. The government of Afghanistan is ready for talks either on a bilateral basis, which is preferable and more promising, or for tripartite talks if the government of Iran is ready to join them, concludes the letter.

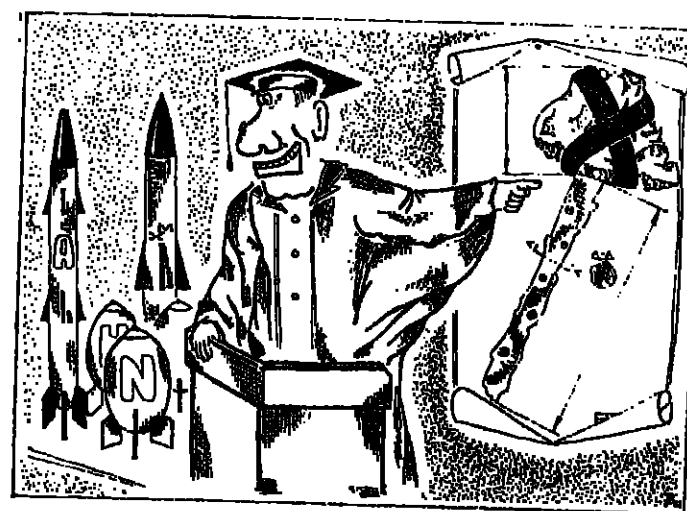
NO LET-UP IN PEKING'S TERRITORIAL CLAIMS

Delhi. UNI-TASS. China is stepping up military preparations which threaten India's security and territorial integrity. At the present time, Peking has around 500,000 troops stationed in Tibet, with most of the army units being concentrated on the borders with India.

Intensive military construction is afoot in some parts of Tibet—strategic roads, runways and radar stations are being built and communications lines

set up. Nine military airfields are already in operation, and some 15 radar stations and rocket launchers have been established in three regions.

The Chinese leaders continue openly to lay claim to parts of India and other states, using their pet ploy of publishing "history" maps showing Nepal, Butan, and parts of India, Burma, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea as "China's lost territories".



We... went even further. This is a prototype of the chief weapon to be used in World War 4. Drawing by Dmitry Varlanov

MILITARISTIC PROGRAMME UNDER FIRE

Washington. The Reagan administration's 1983 Federal budget draft is causing increasing opposition in Congress.

R. Dole, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, claimed the budget's deficit of 91,500 million dollars must be reduced at all costs, including at the expense of the 263,000 million dollar military allocations. Republican Senator D. Durenburger suggested scraping nine military programmes over the next few years, including the development of submarine cruise missiles, the strengthening of

the Minuteman and Titan missile sites to meet the requirements of MX intercontinental ballistic missiles, and the production of F-18 fighter-bombers.

We cannot afford such a destructive deficit. If the 1983 budget is put into effect the entire country's economy will suffer, and attempts to combat unemployment will be undermined, former President Carter told newsmen in Nashville, Tennessee. Reaganomics is possibly the most serious economic mistake our country has ever made, he stressed.

SITUATION IN CHAD

Paris. AFP-TASS. The transitional government of national unity in Chad has rejected proposals put forward by a special committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) for a settlement in Chad. The implementation of the resolution taken by this committee at its meeting in Nairobi, according to a Chad governmental communiqué issued in N'Djamena, would signify a return to the destructive war in the country.

As is known, the OAU special committee announced that the pan-African peace-keeping force would be withdrawn from

Chad provided the Chad government continued immediate talks with the former defence minister, Habre. The resolution also called for an end to hostilities beginning February 28, drawing up a provisional constitution, and holding parliamentary and presidential elections.

The transitional government refused to negotiate with the rebels. The communiqué stresses that the government is planning free democratic elections only when political, military and organizational conditions are suitable.

Libya won't toe the line

Tripoli. No manoeuvres by the USA and reactionary forces will detract Libya from its struggle against American imperialism and against America's henchmen, Israel, and for the freedom and happiness of oppressed peoples, the Libyan leader M. al-Gaddafi told representatives from students' committees. He noted that the American administration failed to compel the Libyan people to toe the line, following a policy that refuses to support the national liberation movements and the Arab people of Palestine. To achieve these designs, the USA employed political pressure, recalled its specialists and stopped oil imports from Libya.

HAVANA FORUM IN PROGRESS

(Continued from page 1)

ternal internationalist assistance by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

The World Peace Council President Ramesh Chandra, an honorary guest of the forum, claimed that if the working people united they could defeat their principal enemy—imperialism. He further exposed the US president's dangerous talk of the possibility of a "limited" nuclear war in Europe.

Recent economic moves in Ghana

Accra. The Provisional Council for national defence in Ghana has established a committee primarily designed to review the country's economic state. The council will revise the 1981-82 fiscal budget adopted by the former government, suggest measures to combat inflation, and present recommendations for closing the balance of payments deficit.

SOUTH KOREA STARTS WAR GAMES

(Continued from page 1)

A North Korean foreign ministry spokesman was quoted as saying that the exercises, "Korean Spirit-82", had the force as the target of its attack and that it was "a wanton violation of the Korean armistice agreement" and should stop immediately.

TRADE UNION MOVEMENT THREATENED IN TURKEY

Havanna. Kemal Dalsak, Secretary of the Confederation of Progressive Trade Unions of Turkey (DISK) has urged the world public to take all possible measures to save the lives of 52 DISK leaders and activists subject to court soon.

It was due to Washington's backing, he told a press conference here, that the bourgeoisie and the internal reaction force in Turkey were responsible for the massive repression measures taken against the Turkish trade union movement.

Despite promises by the authorities to deliver the country out of its deep crisis, life for the majority of the population has not improved in the slightest, Dalsak emphasized. The number of unemployed has reached the 6,000,000 mark; inflation is accelerating ahead at 40 per cent a year, and foreign debt now totals 23,000 million dollars.

FACTS and EVENTS

© The European Communities Commission has released statistics showing that by comparison with last year industrial production in the ten EEC countries dropped by 2-2.5 per cent, while the number of unemployed has shot up to 10.3 million, and the rate of inflation stands at 12.7 per cent.

© A decision to launch into the production a spy satellite has been taken by a special Space Exploration Commission set up by the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party in Japan. The satellite is designed to photograph Soviet military installations in the Far East.

© Britain built less housing in 1981 than in any other year in the past 60 years, while some 1,300 companies went bankrupt.

© Four military-political alliances in Guatemala—the organization of armed people, the guerrilla army of the poor, the rebel armed forces and the revolutionary armed forces of the Guatemalan Party of Labour—have announced the creation of a front of national patriotic unity. It is stressed in their joint communiqué that the need for joint action stems from the deteriorating situation in Central America, including that in Guatemala.

Poland and Hungary reject external interference

Warsaw. Poland and Hungary vigorously denounce the actions taken by the US administration and some other Western nations, which blatantly violate the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act provisions, stressing a joint communiqué regarding the talks between J. Ceyrek, Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the visiting Hungarian Foreign Minister, F. Puja.

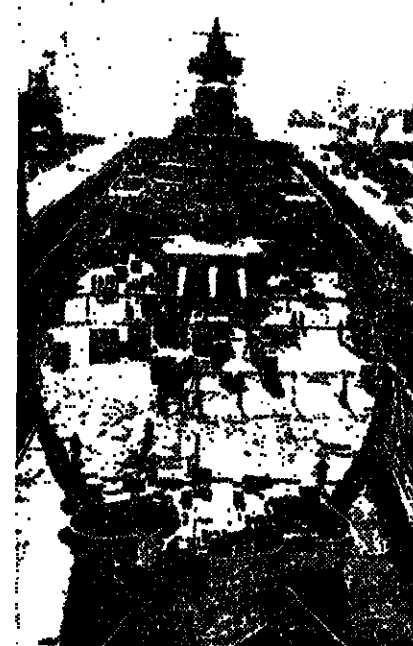
The current campaign in the West against the USSR, Poland and other socialist countries, the document emphasizes, is a violation of the principles of peaceful coexistence among socially differing states and jeopardizes détente and peace in Europe.

The ministers also discussed continued bilateral political, economic, scientific and technical cooperation. The document, further stressed the sides, will consistently take necessary measures to neutralize the financial and economic discriminatory moves by the USA and other Western nations directed against Poland and other socialist countries.

PEOPLE

Joseph Canzeri, deputy assistant to the US president, has been forced to resign over a scandal involving fraud and abuse of power.

The scandal broke out following reports that Canzeri had received several hundred thousand dollars from the Rockefeller family at exceptionally low interest to buy a luxury mansion in Washington. It also came to light that he was not above lesser fraud—thus, he once claimed double, "compensation" for a business trip, presenting travel expenses simultaneously both to the White House and the Republican Party national committee.



In addition to constructing new warships and submarines, the Pentagon has embarked on the modernization project of its infamous ships employed during the Vietnam war period. For instance, the "New Jersey" battleship is now being spruced up at the Long Beach shipyards. It will carry Tomahawk and Harpoon missile launchers, cruise missiles and launching space for Harrier jump-jet fighter-bombers. The battleship will sail to the Indian Ocean, intending to keep a hawk-like eye upon the Persian Gulf states, which the USA has included into its sphere of "vital interest".

Photo AP-TASS

NEW POSITIONING GROUND FOR THE USA IN AFRICA

New York. AP-TASS. The USA has started repositioning the Kenyan port of Mombasa on the Indian Ocean. The port will be deepened, expanded and the coral reefs cleared. Modernization of the Mombasa airport and the construction of ammunition depots and warehouses at the naval base is also in progress.

The reasoning behind such projects is Washington's belief that Mombasa might prove a useful stronghold during emer-

gencies in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean. The port could be used in the Pentagon's joint operations with Israel and South Africa against the Arab and African nations who conduct independent policies.

Mombasa is already intensively used by the USA and other Western navies. Every year alone its visitors include 15 American, British and French warships stationed in the Indian Ocean, among them the US Constellation aircraft carrier.

Science and technology

'ELDERLY' FISH ONLY

Only large fish are now being caught in the Great Lakes of the USA and Canada, reports the "Frankfurter Rundschau" newspaper. But the scientists are of the opinion that the growth acceleration of fish is due in the Great Lakes to unfavourable ecological changes. This was discussed at the conference of ichthyologists in Toronto (Canada). It is predicted that the same phenomena will happen in the European countries, above all, in Scandinavia. The possible cause for such changes is a high content of acids in rain.

An interesting feature is that the Canadians are catching mainly "elderly" fish. The scientists assume that this is a sign that the small fry cannot survive the new, grimmer ecological conditions.

A LOW-NOISE TRACTOR

At a recent Vienna show a stir was aroused by a tractor which is virtually noiseless, at least one can easily

speak in its vicinity. Professor Katzda, the inventor of this highly effective noise dumping system, believes that 100 tractors equipped with his system produce no more noise than a single conventional tractor. Such tractors could become a real nuisance as, according to the Austrian Ministry of Public Health, every other Austrian suffers from cardiovascular and other disorders caused by noise overload.

AN ELECTRIC BUS: PROS AND CONS

The first ever electric bus is now plying the streets of the French town of Tours. It is powered by a storage battery consisting of 27 accumulators. The bus caters for 25 passengers and attains a speed of up to 50 kilometres per hour. Despite a number of advantages, its disadvantages are also significant as its battery weighs a tonne and is enough to cover only 30 kilometres without recharging. In addition its operation costs 20 per cent more than that of any conventional bus.

OF INTEREST

An unusual 'janitor'

An unusual "janitor", a lynx meals workers at the entrance gate of a pulp-and-paper combine of Joensuu in Eastern Finland. Contrary to the common idea of her aggressive temperament, the lynx reacts quietly to the presence of people. This unusual friendship took some time to develop. At first the workers were quite apprehensive of the beast's arrival, as it was attracted by the food smells from the dining room and the warmth generated by the radiators. Gradually the lynx adjusted to the new surroundings, and her

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

VIETNAM'S CONSISTENT POSITION

Peking is obstinately ignoring the remarkable and lasting changes which have occurred in Indochina in the past few years, writes IZVESTIA.

The Chinese rulers seem to be thinking in the past, when China sought to dominate other nations through its military might. But times are changing, stresses the paper, as are relationships between nations. The sovereign Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, who have cast off the feudal yoke and defended their national independence, are now building a new life, and no amount of pressure, blackmail and intimidation will cease these advances. Respect for human rights and the freedom of individual is an element of international relations, and China's leaders should long have awakened to this fact. Vietnam's fresh initiatives envisaging an end to armed clashes on the Vietnamese-Chinese border and resumption of bilateral talks unilaterally suspended by Peking in March 1980 form just one example of Vietnam's consistent and candid policies aimed at normalizing bilateral relations. If Peking accepted this and renounced expansionist policies in the region and support for the reactionary forces dreaming of reversing objective historical processes under way in South-East Asia this would significantly improve the international climate in Asia.

WASHINGTON'S NEW SON MY

Another American Son My, this time not in Vietnam but in El Salvador, has made recent US history, writes Vitaly Kobylak in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA. Let no one be confused by the fact, he stresses, that a thousand old men, women and children from the Mozala village in the Morazan department on the border with Honduras were atrociously murdered and even burnt alive by vile thugs from the Atlacatl special battalion directed by the Salvadoran military junta—therefore indirectly murdered by the Americans.

The USA is not only conniving in this genocide, the paper further points out, but is actually responsible for ordering it. To prevent El Salvador following Nicaragua's suit and to protect the "zone of US vital interests" in the region, president Reagan appropriated another 53,000,000 dollars of military aid to the junta in El Salvador.

Washington is truly committed, the paper contends, to fight here and elsewhere for its "vital interests" in the last drop of someone else's blood.

AMBITIONS OF LATTER-DAY SAMURAI

Japan's military expenditure in 1970 increased 14.2-fold as compared with 1960. Only a few capitalist countries can boast of a comparable growth in military expenditure, writes the KRASNAYA ZVEZDA newspaper.

Analysis of the policy being practised by the Japanese leaders, the newspaper asserts, brings to mind the activities of the Japanese samurai on the eve of the Second World War. Of note is the fact that in the middle of 1980, for the first time in the post-war period, all members of the Japanese cabinet, with Zenko Suzuki at its head, made a demonstrative pilgrimage to the Yasukuni temple in Tokyo where plaques are on display giving the names of the Japanese officers and men who lost their lives in battles for a greater Japan. Those include the chief war criminals convicted by the International Military Tribunal in Tokyo. What the ministers discussed with their predecessors is unknown, but one gets the impression that the militarists of the 1940s must have instilled the present-day Japanese leaders with their ideals, as the latter are gradually carrying out plans to revive Japan's former might.

THE CIA'S NEW WEAPON

According to the NEW TIMES weekly few people are aware of the sinister role played by the CIA in the distribution of narcotics. It is certainly impossible to count the number of victims who have died as a result of CIA efforts in this sphere.

Ever since its foundation 35 years ago, the CIA has shown great interest in the use of narcotics for professional purposes.

The CIA continues to experiment in this field in secret. The desire to possess a powerful and terrifying means of controlling human behaviour stimulates the CIA to an independent search for the new narcotics. A broad network of research institutions and pharmaceutical firms is being used for this purpose. The agency has succeeded in developing a number of new narcotics, one of which, "B-3", creates hallucinations ten times stronger than LSD.

By aiding and abetting the spread of drug addiction, the CIA rudely flouts the moral and legal standards accepted in civilized society today.

presence was accepted. She made the entrance-gate office her home, and makes only occasional forays into the nearby woods.

herself declared she would do anything for ice-cream.

The password is 'Moustache'

During the past four centuries the Bulgarian village of Govevda has been graced by a unique club. The 80 male members hold one major thing in common, moustaches. The club possesses its own statute and holds a traditional festival celebrated every April. It is run by a board, its fund is taken from voluntary contributions by members. New members can join regardless of age and the length of their moustaches, although the Chairman, R. Khristov, sports the longest growth.

White crocodile

India's only white crocodile lives in a reservaton in Orissa State. It is 36 years old and weighs over 50 kg, reports the "Hindustan Times" newspaper.

For the love of ice-cream

Biby Ruwea, USA, took only four hours and 17 minutes to consume 44 kilos of ice-cream, an all-time record. Doctors pronounced Biby fit after her enormous eating feat, and Biby

VIEWPOINT

Valentin KUNIN

New proposals—but goals remain unchanged

The Western press is widely advertising the "new" proposals for a settlement of the Namibian issue drawn up by the "contact group" consisting of the USA, Britain, France, the FRG and Canada. The "stage-by-stage" plan, based on an American draft, is being described as representative of the interests of all parties and as the only effective means towards an early solution of the Namibian problem.

Even a cursory glance at these proposals, recently published in the Namibian "Windhoek Observer", however, reveals that just the opposite is the case. The first stage of the plan envisages the formulation of constitutional principles, the second—a decision on the composition and deployment of UN troops, and the third—the drawing up of a timetable for an

end to the hostilities, the withdrawal of the South African occupation forces and the holding of general elections. It is clear that the plan runs counter to the fundamental UN document on Namibia [Security Council Resolution No. 435] which has, as its first stage, a ceasefire in Namibia and the holding of general elections under UN supervision, to be followed by the creation of a constituent assembly and the adoption of a constitution.

The "contact group" proposals, therefore, are an obvious attempt to delay giving independence to Namibia and to provide the South African racists with a respite to "settle" the Namibian problem in line with the Pretoria scenario, i.e. place their puppets in power in Windhoek.

In the past few years the

South African government has been working hard to counterbalance SWAPO's influence in Namibia by creating so-called domestic parties, i.e. groupings knocked together by the white minority and racists to the African cause. While the "contact group" dragged their feet, the racists set up puppet power-bodies in Namibia and even a "council of ministers" led by white millionaire farmer Dirk Mudge. Last November Western diplomats were in Windhoek and met representatives of these puppet groupings. To all intents and purposes this signified acknowledgement of the latter as a partner in the search for a settlement in the country—precisely what South Africa had been seeking all along.

With such encouragement, Mudge and Co. are becoming progressively cheeky, demand-

ing, no more no less, that they be recognized alongside SWAPO, as the legitimate representatives of the Namibian people. Allying that the UN is biased in refusing to meet their demands, the Namibian puppets refuse if any part in the settlement process, as was made clear the other day by K. Pretorius, chairman of the domestic Nationalist Party of South-West Africa. His statement was quite revealing—the South African press has been inflicting it might be a good idea to set up international armed forces to supervise elections in Namibia made up of troops provided by "contact group" members, primarily the USA—which in effect means placing the settlement in Namibia under direct Western control. A question is in order: who empowered Washington and its allies to decide the future of the people in Namibia?

The cynical stand taken by the West on the Namibian issue and its attempts to foil legitimate independence on the country are being rebuffed by SWAPO and the whole of independent Africa. SWAPO President Sam Nujoma has repeatedly stressed that the provision of independence to Namibia should be in strict compliance with UN Resolution No. 435. If not SWAPO will wage an armed struggle until final victory.

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars



Nikolai KARACHENTSOV

Nikolai Karachentsov rose to theatrical prominence quite unexpectedly, following Moscow's Leninsky Komsomol Theatre premiere of the "Thyl" musical. His success was easily explained—the theatre's rather long static existence ended when the new brilliantly gifted director Mark Zakharov joined the company. His artistic manner was unusually bold for the year 1973. The play abounded in light, sound, music and artistic effects, and was marked by the new approach of placing an unknown actor (who had incidentally played at the theatre for several years and never made a name for himself) at the centre of the action.

The credit to the adoption of this new "star" system goes to Mark Zakharov, whose approach to acting was disregarded by many theatres during the initial stages. The idea of building up the action centred around one actor with the rest of the cast performing only supporting roles, never failed. The reason being that Zakharov never made a mistake in his choice of "stars", finding them in his own theatre or inviting new faces from other theatres. Karachentsov was his choice for the part of Thyl and this was not a simple task, but the discovery of a talented actor.

The maddening pace of "Thyl" was best suited to the actor's passionate manner both in real life and on stage. Karachentsov's Thyl was charged with overflowing energy as he sang, laughed, cried and jumped, all the while riveting the audience's attention, in awe and fascination.

That role only was enough to place Karachentsov among Moscow's acting elite.

It is hard to imagine him as a Don Juan although he is a hero, he is also a character hero. Karachentsov thus spoke of his manner: "My aim is to reveal man as he is, and I want to assert the good found in man by using both unusual and fantastic methods. I gravitate towards fantastic realism, yet the performance naturally must remain truthful whatever imagery is involved."

Recently the theatre mounted the poet Andrei Voznesensky's play "Yumona and Ayos", and during each performance Karachentsov, true to form, goes all out.

Karachentsov has not appeared in many films (the cinema is great for one's popularity), but he is still snatched under with letters from female admirers and offers from directors. He is gifted with natural grace, and works on his body movements consciously and daily (my mother, a ballet teacher, is responsible for it, he argues). He himself sings all his play and film roles, even though he lacks musical training and therefore daily puts in several hours doing respiratory exercises.

The racing pace of his life is reflection of our times, and due to the fact that Karachentsov keeps up with the age and its constant changes, this arguably forms his greatest attraction.

Vera ZHELTOVA

In the photo: Nikolai Karachentsov in the "Yumona and Ayos" play. Photo by Valery Plotnikov

A CLASSIC REVIVED

The musical drama "Lohengrin" premiered recently by the Kirov Opera and Ballet Theatre in Leningrad introduces one to the world of Wagner romanticism.

A century ago Richard Wagner's opera was first staged in Russia, and paved the way for many future performances. The musical legend of Swan Night

was first produced in Petersburg. The young members of the theatre were prominent in the recent premiere. Valery Georgiyev, who conducts the orchestra, was awarded a prize in an international conductors' contest in West Berlin. The leading roles are sung by Larisa Shevchenko and Konstantin Pluzhnikov.

German director at work in Tbilisi

Friendship show might be one way to describe the play "Kevan-the Georgian Girl" which opened recently at Tbilisi's Shota Rustaveli Theatre. Written by Andreas Gryphius, the German dramatist, the play was produced by another German, Hermann Wedekind, from Saarbrücken in the FRG.

Working with this well-known company has been an immense pleasure, said Wedekind. I value Soviet art above all for its humanism. In his play, my compatriot, Andreas Gryphius, has resurrected a tragic page from Georgian history of the 17th century. It is about the heroism and strength displayed by the people in their struggle against foreign invaders, their striving for free-

dom and independence. Such noble ideals are equally dear to all people of goodwill. I hope that this joint production will serve to further strengthen the links between our peoples. "Kevan-the Georgian Girl" is Wedekind's fifth venture in the Georgian capital. At the Tbilisi Opera and Ballet Theatre he has produced Wagner's "Lohengrin" and "The Flying Dutchman", Mozart's "The Magic Flute" and Gounod's "Faust". Meanwhile Georgian directors have been at work in the theatres of Saarbrücken. Here they have produced two operas by Z. Paliashvili "Daisi" and "Abessalom and Eteri", O. Taktakishvili's "Mandrya" and "Semenishvili's Stepmother", the play by D. Kladashvili.

Soviet show draws Parisian crowds

French art enthusiasts recently experienced their first taste of works by Soviet artists. On display at the International art centre on the Boulevard de la Chapelle in Paris, the artists' show closely in the footsteps of the Russian realist painters, the second half of the last century.

Two comments entered the visitors' book at the show: a good example of the visitors' impressions: "Thanks to the artists who managed to express with so much feeling their communistic nature." "What a pleasure to view Russia's wonderful landscapes through your eyes. Thanks for being sincere."

The Kadriorg Palace in Tallinn houses the Estonian State Art Museum with its valuable collection of paintings, drawings and sculpture, incorporating German and Dutch art and sculpture as well as works by well-known West European artists. There are altogether 30,000 items in the collection.

In the photo: Medieval masterpieces in the Culpole Hall.



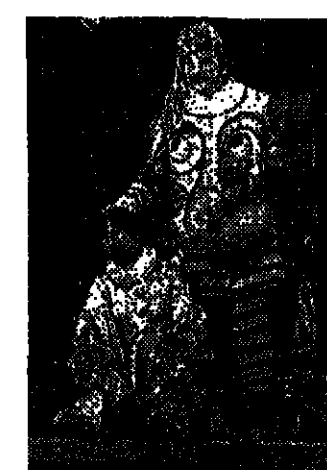
Restoration of the Doma organ

The famous Doma organ in Riga, one of the largest in Europe, has remained silent for some time. Now the 360-year-old instrument is being subjected to a complete overhaul.

The organ was reconstructed and restored many times during its long life. It was badly damaged in the Great Patriotic War. Now its pipes, bellows and keyboard are in need of radical repair. A firm in the Netherlands which specializes in restoration projects of ancient organs has agreed to perform this complex task. The famous organ has 6,768 pipes—the longest 10 m and the shortest—30 millimetres.

Local specialists, led by Gunars Dalmanis, are also participating in the restoration work. After this project is completed the Doma organ will regain its unique voice sounding exactly as it did during past ages.

CARNIVAL PERFORMANCE BASED ON FAIRY TALE



"The Happy Beggars", a dazzling pageant based on Carlo Gozzi's fairy tale has opened at Moscow's Stanislavsky Theatre.

The play, which sparkles with humour and improvisation, might be termed theatrical games for adults and children alike. In the name of good and happiness its heroes embark on a struggle with the forces of evil.

The production makes use of music by Rossini, Verdi, Leoncavallo and other composers, as well as of archive recordings of the voices of Maria Callas, Tito Gobbi and Mario Del Monaco.

WHAT'S ON!

February 16-19

THEATRES

Kremlin Palace of Congresses (Kremlin). Bolshoi Theatre performances: 17—Verdi, "Il Trovatore" (opera). 19—"Choreographic Miniatures", Leningrad Ballet Company.

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.). 17—Prokofiev, "Ivan the Terrible" (ballet). 18—Tchaikovsky, "Eugene Onegin" (opera). 19—Verdi, "Un ballo in maschera" (opera).

Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.). 17—Bizet, "Carmen" (opera). 18—Sidelnikov, "Stepan Razin" (ballet). 19—Offenbach, "La Belle Hélène" (opera).

FILMS

I'm Afraid (a two-part Italian production).

About the causes of organized crime and of terror and corruption in Italy. Cinema: "Novorossiysk" (47/24 Chernyshevskogo St.). Metro Kurakaya.

The Woman in White (a part production of Mollodet Studios).

A screen-adaptation of popular English novel Wilkie Collins. Cinema: "Udarnik" (25 Simovicha St.). Metro Bolshoi. Imeni Lenina. "Gorizont". Komsomolsky Prospekt. Prunzenskaya.

EXHIBITIONS

Polytechnical Museum Novaya Sq. Entrance "Stone Rainbow". This exhibition of onyx, agate, carnelian and other precious stones from the Magdalenian (from the Magdalenian Local) Lore, visitors will see the various uses of these stones in industry, science, daily life and the applied arts. Daily, except Monday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Other days: from 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Metro: Ploshchad' Nostalgia and Dostoevskaya.

Central Artistic Club. Krymsky Val. An exhibition of decorative works by artists. Intended for public, buildings, streets and squares. Daily, except Monday, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Metro Park Kultury.

BUSINESS

RECESSION TRENDS CAN BE CHECKED

The crisis has affected our steel industry as much as the rest of Europe, H. Apliter, Director-General of Vöest-Alpine, Austria's largest steel producer, admitted recently.

The future of the West European steel industry is determined to a large degree by its links with the socialist countries, the magazine "Weg und Ziel" claimed. The piping factory at Kindberg, belonging to Vöest-Alpine is now able to expand

owing to a Soviet order for 800 thousand tonnes of piping, the magazine continued. Over 30 per cent of Vöest-Alpine's output goes to socialist countries, a convincing testimony in favour of all-round cooperation with partners in the East. In his interview with the newspaper "Volksstimme", H. Apliter emphasized the fact that Eastern orders have helped in providing employment at a time when we are accompanied by relatively pessimistic predictions.

Books in fifty languages

Progress is the world biggest publishing house specializing in translations. Books put out by Progress are to be found in the remotest corners of the world.

Today we publish books in fifty languages, says Progress Director V. Sudykh. In the current five-year plan we hope to start issuing books in another six languages. We issue 25 million copies of books a year.

In 1982, we shall continue the publication of the 50-volume Collected Works of K. Marx and F. Engels in the English language and V. I. Lenin's Complete Works in Spanish.

This year, L. I. Brezhnev's "Reminiscences" will come out in English, Spanish, French, Italian and Arabic.

We offer our readers both in this country and abroad a variety of books on Soviet history, on the wide-ranging achievements of the Soviet people, and on the peaceful foreign policy pursued by the USSR.

Many books we published are specially written for Progress. Eight new titles have been commissioned for the "Impressions of the USSR" series. They will be written by authors from Spain, Canada, Pakistan and other countries. Besides, we shall be putting out new books in the following series: "Practice, Problems and Prospects of Socialism" and "Imperialism, Acts, Facts and Records", to mention but a few.

Contacts and contracts

G. Marchuk, Vice-Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and Chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, met with L. Supka, Czechoslovak Minister of Technological and Investment Development. They compared notes concerning the development and implementation of national task-oriented interdisciplinary research and development programmes.

Via Technopromimport, Komplex of Hungary will supply cheese making equipment, Jugotekhnika of Yugoslavia will provide four bread baking lines and Hauni-Werke of West Germany will sell equipment for the tobacco industry.

Mashpriborintorg is selling to Konelsto, Finland, a batch of instruments, including a micro-television analyzer, and liquid chromatographs, while Mitsui of Japan will be provided with a measuring microscope intended for bulky materials.

At the 5th International Book Fair at present taking place in Delhi, Indian publishers and VAAAP (the Soviet Copyright Agency) have signed 11 contracts to publish the works of Soviet authors in India and those of Indian writers in the USSR. The "National Herald" newspaper comments on the steadily expanding Indian-Soviet relations in this field, which help strengthen friendship and understanding between the peoples of the two countries, and on the growing exchange of scientific and engineering knowledge.

SPORTS

Central Army Club Sports Gym (39 Leningradsky Prospekt). 16—National championship between men's teams. Central Army Club v Vilnius Statya. 7 p.m.

ATHLETICS

Krylatskoye Sports Complex (Metro Molodyozhnyye). 19—Winter national championship. 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

National teams from the constituent republics, Moscow and Leningrad take part.

BANDY

Dynamo Stadium. 17—National championship. Moscow

RACING

Hippodrome (22 Bogoyeva St.). 17 and 19—Racing and trotting. Both days at 6 p.m.

WEATHER

February 16-19

In Moscow, city and region, changeable weather, slight snow midway through period, W and NW wind, 3-7 mps. On February 16 night temperatures —10° to —5°C, and around 0° during the day. Subsequently —15° to —10°C at night and —6° to —2°C during the day.

TRANSPORT HOURS

Metro 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 5 kopeks. Trolleybuses 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 4 kopeks. Buses 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 3 kopeks. Trams 5.30 a.m. to 1.30 a.m. Fare 3 kopeks. Taxis 24-hour service. Twenty kopeks on the meter to begin plus 20 kopeks per kilometre. Ordering a cab 24-hour service. Telephone 225-00-00. Communal cabs (over 40 routes in the city) 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fare 15 kopeks.

MACHINOEXPORT

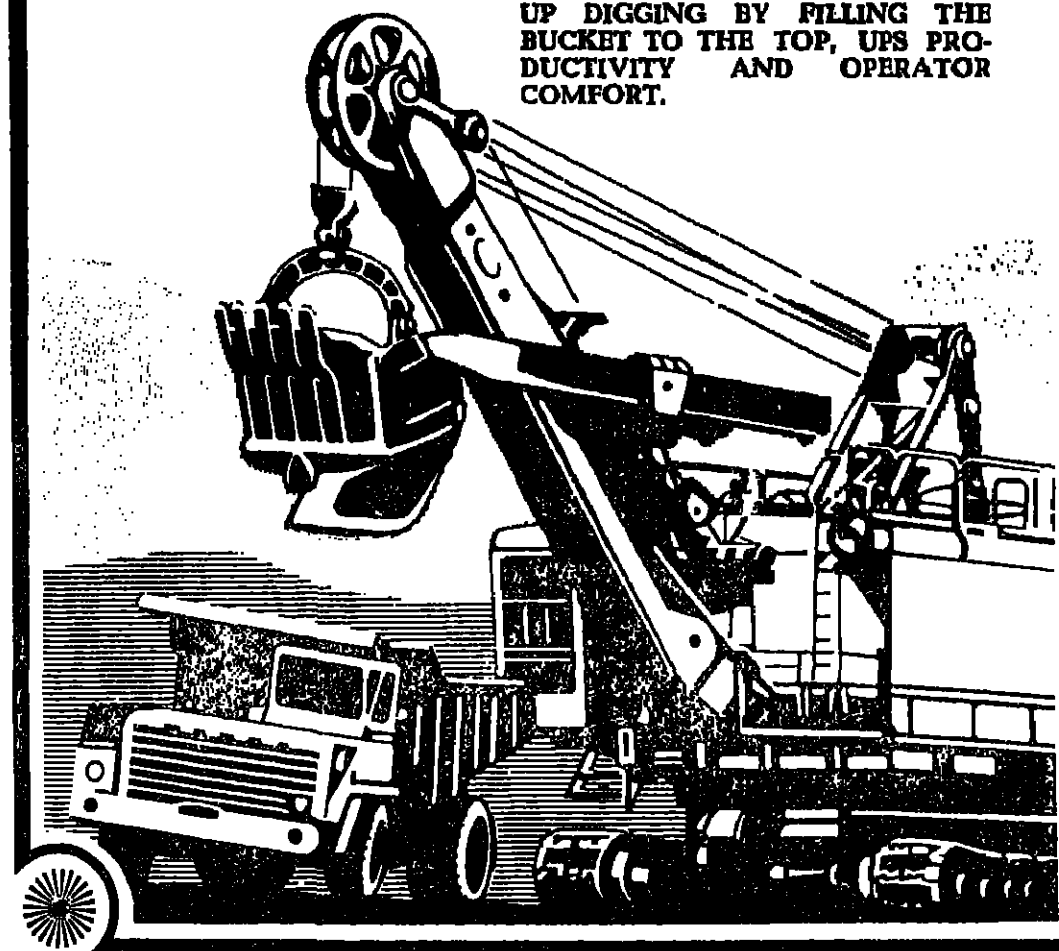
USSR MOSCOW 117330 • MOSCOW V-330 MACHINOEXPORT
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SOVIET EXCAVATORS WORK HARD IN 50 COUNTRIES!

EKG-5A QUARRY EXCAVATOR

for open-cast mines and for work on large-scale building sites
BUCKET CAPACITY—5 m³
BIGGEST DIGGING RADIUS—14.5 m
HIGHEST DIGGING POINT—6.7 m
RADIUS OF ROTATION OF PLATFORM TAIL END—5.25 m
WORKING MASS—196 tons

AN AUTOMATIC SYSTEM SPEEDS UP DIGGING BY FILLING THE BUCKET TO THE TOP, UPS PRODUCTIVITY AND OPERATOR COMFORT.



SUDOIMPORT EXPANDS CONTACTS

At a recent Moscow press conference for Soviet and foreign newsmen the Director-General of V/O Sudoimport, O. Kropotov, discussed his organization's operations during 1981. Trade with socialist countries has been progressing well, he noted, and accounts now for over two-thirds of Sudoimport's overall trade.

Sudoimport maintains long-standing relations with companies in Finland, France, the FRG, Japan, Austria, Sweden, Norway, Finland, he noted, is providing Sudoimport with an extremely broad range of products. According to Finnish experts, Soviet orders create jobs for thousands of Finnish ship-building workers.

At present, Kropotov emphasized, Sudoimport holds contacts with 80 countries.

JUBILEE FAIR IN SPRING

The March 14-20 annual International Leipzig Spring Fair will mark the 60th anniversary of Soviet participation in this event.

The vast Soviet display will feature over 8,000 items ranging from the latest machines, lathes and equipment to consumer goods. Various displays provide a good idea of Soviet multinational culture, Georgia

will receive the widest coverage. Special attention will be given to highlighting business and scientific international cooperation maintained by the USSR. A total of 150 exhibits will inform of the Soviet Union's participation in the CMEA comprehensive programme for socialist economic integration.

DREDGES IN ACTION

Filling a Soviet order, the Prague shipyards of Ceske Lodenice is completing the construction of another large dredge capable of extracting 2,500 tonnes of sand and gravel from river beds.

The Ceske Lodenice shipyards has for more than a quarter of a century supplied the USSR

with dredges. Most these vessels are now operating on the Volga, the Kama, the Yenisei, the Lena, the Amudarya, and the Vakhsh rivers as dredging the river beds helps improve river navigation conditions. Czechoslovak floating pumping stations irrigate the cotton plantations along the river and canal banks in the republics of Central Asia.

A journey from the Pacific Into the Atlantic

Passing through the locks of the Panama canal, which raised the ship 88 metres above sea level and then let it glide gently downwards, the "Latvia" entered the Atlantic. Only a few sailors can claim having sailed along this man-made waterway dug through one of the greatest bottlenecks on the Panamanian isthmus. For people on the Latin American cruise sponsored by the "Sputnik" International Youth Travel Bureau, their familiarization with the Atlantic

started exactly in this manner. They stayed on the upper deck until the sun dipped below the horizon, shooting off their cine-camera film and capturing for posterity this imposing and singularly beautiful man-made creation.

The 300 new "Latvia" passengers, who took over from an earlier group in Managua, journeyed 679 miles from the Nicaraguan port of Corinto to Panama, and felt quite in their element aboard the ship.

Intourist news

An exciting portion of any trip is over land, and this is true for Panama, which was visited by 600 Soviet travellers in the space of only two weeks.

The tourist programme was a very busy affair, as the guests visited industrial projects, fought through meetings with Panamanian youth, climbed the Ascon Mountains, the highest spot in Panama, went sunbathing and undertook exciting sight-seeing tours around the city.